II. Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1 - 10 (cancelled)

Claim 11 (withdrawn from examination in parent application): The assembly of claim 5 or claim 6 in which the peripheral flange clamp includes facing sections at the opposite sides of the flanges on the pipes to be joined and the clamps provides a compressive force between the flange surfaces in the longitudinal direction of the pipe axis.

Claims 12 - 13 (cancelled)

Claim 14 (withdrawn from examination in parent application): The assembly of claim 10 in which the flange clamp comprises a multiplicity of peripheral sections.

Claim 15 (cancelled)

Claim 16 (withdrawn from examination in parent application): A section of large diameter corrugated plastic pipe having transverse corrugations and an inner liner and a flange at an end joined to one of the group of plastic pipes; non-plastic pipes; plastic fittings; and non-plastic fittings having a flange end at the location of a joint.

Claims 17 - 19 (cancelled)

Claim 20 (withdrawn from examination in parent application): Two sections of large diameter corrugated plastic pipe each having transverse corrugations and an inner liner and a flange at the end of each pipe section joined in a clamped assembly including an outer gasket encompassing the radially peripheral ends of the flange.

Claim 21 (withdrawn from examination in parent application): The assembly of claim 20 in which a clamp exerts a force to compress the gasket between the inner surface of clamp interior and the outer radial edge of the flanges.

Claims 22 - 23 (cancelled)

Claim 24 (withdrawn from examination in parent application): The kit of claim 22 including a portable cutting device and a guide fixture for making field cuts in the end section of the corrugated pipe to provide a flange at the end thereof by forming a radially extending circumferential portion of at least one of a section of a corrugation or the liner of the corrugated pipe.

Claim 25 (withdrawn from examination in parent application): The method of forming a flange at the end of a section of corrugated plastic pipe by

transversely severing from the pipe a section of a corrugation of the pipe at an axial location on the corrugation at the end of a pipe section.

Claim 26 (withdrawn from examination in parent application): A fitting having at least two flanges in which one of the fitting ends has an off set, selectable diameter flange reducer coupling capable of being cut off at a predetermined flange diameter.

Claim 27 (withdrawn from examination in parent application): The fitting of claim 26 wherein the fitting comprises a molded plastic composition.

Claim 28 (withdrawn from examination in parent application): The fitting of claim 27 wherein the fitting is one of an in-line, "Y", "T", 4 way, elbow or angle.

Claim 29 (withdrawn from examination in parent application): The assembly of claim 5 or claim 6 including a toggle clamp.

Claim 30 (new) An assembly of collinearly aligned sections of large diameter corrugated plastic pipes that are buried in a trench, wherein a plurality of separate lengths of pipe are connected, wherein the end of a first pipe length abuts the end of a second pipe length, each pipe length includes a flange radially extending from the abutting ends of adjacent pipe lengths, wherein each end flange radially extends from the valley of the corrugation in the pipe immediately preceding the

end and does not transversely extend into a crest, a circumferential clamp disposed about the abutting flanges to form a joint between the pipe lengths, the clamp having sides adapted to embrace the sides of the flanges and the sides of the clamp do not radially extend to the valleys of the corrugations in the pipes immediately adjacent the flanges.

Claims 31 (new) An assembly of collinearly aligned sections of large diameter corrugated plastic pipes that are buried in a trench, wherein a plurality of separate lengths of pipe are connected, wherein the end of a first pipe length abuts the ends of a second pipe length, each pipe length includes a flange radially extending from the abutting ends of adjacent pipe ends, wherein each flange radially extends from the valley of the corrugation in the pipe immediately preceding the end, a circumferential clamp disposed about the abutting flanges to form a joint between the pipe lengths, the clamp having sides adapted to embrace the sides of the flanges and the sides of the clamp do not radially extend to the valleys of the corrugations in the pipes immediately adjacent the flanges, the clamp having an interior channel providing an inside clearance between the inside radius of the clamp and the outer circumference of the flanges, wherein a gasket is interposed between the flanged ends of the pipe lengths in a relationship in which the clamp encompasses the facing flanges.

Claim 32 (new) The assembly of claim 30 in which the clamp includes an interior channel providing an inside clearance between the inside radius of the clamp and the sides of the flanges.

Claim 33 (new) The assembly of claim 31 in which the gasket, in longitudinal cross section, has a shape essentially in correspondence with the facing flanges of pipe lengths.

Claim 34 (new) The assembly of claim 31 in which the gasket, in longitudinal cross section, is wedge shaped.

Claim 35 (new) The assembly of claim 31 in which the gasket comprises and "O" ring.

Claim 36 (new) The assembly of claim 30 or 31 in which the clamp provides a compressive force to the flanges and the relationship of the clamp and the flanges is such that the diameters of the clamp and the flanges, when the clamp is tightened, provide a) a clearance between the outside circumference of the flanges and the inside circumference of the channel formed in the clamp and b) a clearance between the sides of the channel in the clamp and the valleys of the corrugations in the pipes immediately adjacent the flanges.

Claim 37 (new) The assembly of claim 36 in which the sides of the clamp form the channel and the channel includes opposite sides extending radially ~~extending~~ toward each other from the inside radius of the clamp.

Claim 38 (new) The assembly of claim 36 in which the sides of the clamp form the channel and the channel includes opposite sides radially extending away from each other from the inside radius of the clamp.

Claim 39 (new) The assembly of claim 30 or 31 in which the inside diameter of the clamp is greater than the outside diameters of the lengths joined.

Claim 40 (new) The assembly of claim 30 or 31 in which the pipe lengths are lined with a liner and at least a portion of the flange is formed intrinsically from the material of the liner.

Claim 41 (new) A system for joining collinearly aligned sections of large diameter corrugated plastic pipes comprising: forming a circumferential flange integrally and radially extending from the valley of the corrugation at the end of a first pipe section, forming a circumferential flange integrally and radially extending from the valley of the corrugation at the end of a second pipe section positioning the flange at the end of the first pipe section in an abutting relationship with the flange at the end of the second pipe section, joining the abutting flanges with a circumferential clamp having sides that do not radially extend to the valleys of the corrugations in

the pipes immediately adjacent the flanges, the clamp having an interior channel providing an inside clearance between the inside radius of the clamp and the outer circumference of the flanges, and burying the pipe sections in a trench.

Claim 42 (new) A method for joining collinearly aligned sections of large diameter corrugated plastic pipes comprising: forming a circumferential flange integrally and radially extending from the valley of the corrugation at the end of a first pipe section, forming a circumferential flange integrally and radially extending from the valley of the corrugation at the end of a second pipe section, positioning the flange at the end of the first pipe section in an abutting relationship with the flange at the end of the second pipe section, joining the abutting flanges with a circumferential clamp having sides that do not radially extend to the valleys of the corrugations in the pipes immediately adjacent the flanges, the clamp having an interior channel providing an inside clearance between the inside radius of the clamp and the outer circumference of the flanges, and burying the pipe sections in a trench.

Claim 43 (new) The method of claim 42, including inserting a gasket in alignment with the flanges as the flanges are positioned in the abutting relationship, and wherein applying the clamp compresses the assembly of the gasket and flanges, the clamp allowing an internal radial clearance with respect to the outside circumference of the flanges.

Claim 44 (new) The method of claim 42 wherein the pipe sections are lined with a liner.

Claim 45 (new) A kit of collinearly aligned sections of large diameter corrugated plastic pipes provided in predetermined lengths that are to be buried in a trench in which a plurality of separate lengths of pipe are connected to each other or to a fitting, comprising a first large diameter corrugated plastic pipe having a flange radially extending from the valley of the corrugation in the pipe immediately preceding the end of the pipe, and a second large diameter corrugated plastic pipe or fitting having a flange radially extending from the valley of the corrugation in the pipe or fitting immediately preceding the end of the pipe or fitting, the flanges adapted to abut one another in facing relationship, a peripheral clamp for disposition about the abutting flanges to form a joint between the pipe lengths and/or fitting, the clamp having sides adapted to embrace the sides of the flanges and the sides of the clamp do not radially extend to the valleys of the corrugations in the pipes or pipe and fitting immediately adjacent the flanges, the clamp having an interior channel providing an inside clearance between the inside radius of the clamp and the outer circumference of the flanges ~~,~~ when the clamp is disposed about the flanges.

Claim 46 (new) The kit of claim 45 for providing a water tight joint between the joint components, in which at least one pipe length or fitting includes a compressible annular elastomeric gasket having a surface profile essentially corresponding to the surface area of the pipe length's or the fitting's flange.

Claim 47 (new) The kit of claim 46 in which the gasket is an "O" ring having first and second side surfaces for disposition between the flanges and the surfaces of the "O" ring facing the flanges correspond to the surfaces of the flanges at the pipe or fitting ends.

Claim 48 (new) The kit of claim 45, 46, or 47 including a field cut length of pipe.

Claim 49 (new) The assembly of claim 30 or 31 in which the pipe is an HDPE pipe.

Claim 50 (new) The assembly of claim 30 or claim 31 in which the clamp is formed from a stainless steel.

Claim 51 (new) The system of claim 41 in which the pipe sections are of HDPE.

Claim 52 (new) The method of claim 42 for joining HDPE corrugated plastic pipe.

Claim 53 (new) The kit of claim 45 in which the first pipe is an HDPE pipe.

Claim 54 (new) The kit of claim 53 in which the clamp is formed from a stainless steel.

Claim 55 (new) The method of claim 42 in which the first and second pipe sections are formed by cutting the sections from a given length of pipe at a longitudinal location between the valley of the end corrugation of the given length of pipe and the crest of the corrugation.

Claim 56 (new) The assembly of claim 30 or 31 in which an additional length of pipe having a flanged end is disposed in facing relationship with a fitting having a cooperative flange and an additional clamp is disposed about the flanged end of the additional pipe and the flange of the fitting to form a joint.

Claim 57 (new) The kit of claim 45 further including a second fitting having a flanged end cooperative with a flange at an end of an additional pipe and a second clamp for disposition with respect to the flange of the second fitting and the flange of the additional pipe.